



ALABAMA NEWS RELEASE



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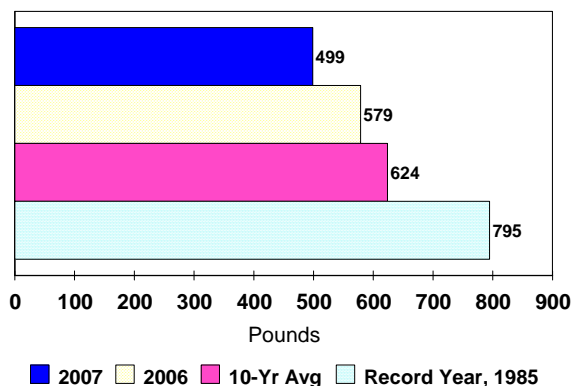
Julie Schmidt
Agricultural Statistician

December 1 Crop Production

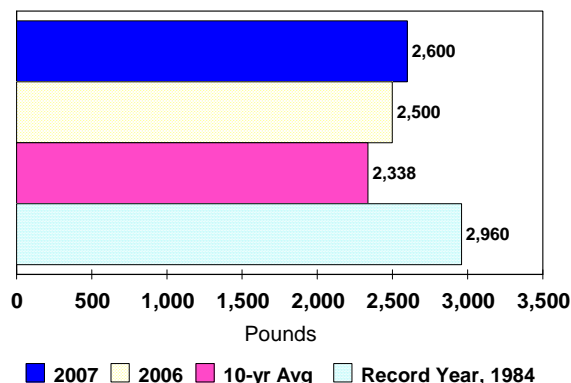
The 2007 crop season began the same way the 2006 crop season ended – DRY! Planting was delayed in most areas of the state because of hard soils and unfavorable conditions. A late, hard freeze over Easter weekend caused winter wheat and corn yields to be lower than expected in some parts of the state. Total **hay stocks** for December 1 increased to 1.318 million tons, up 253,000 tons from December a year ago. **Hay** yield decreased to 1.70 tons per acre, down from 2.00 tons per acre in the previous year. There was 1.36 million tons of hay produced from 800,000 harvested acres, a decrease of 80,000 tons from 2006. **Corn** acreage increased 140,000 acres to 340,000 planted acres in 2007. The corn harvested for grain yield increased to 79 bushels per acre, producing 22.1 million bushels of corn from 280,000 harvested acres. This was an 86 percent increase in production from the previous year. **Cotton** production was estimated at 400,000 bales from 385,000 harvested acres, down 275,000 bales and 175,000 acres, respectively. The state's yield was set at 499 pounds of lint per acre, down 80 pounds per acre from 2006 and 296 pounds per acre from the record yield set in 1985. **Peanut** yields varied widely across the state, but increased 100 pounds per acre from a year ago to 2,600 pounds per acre despite suffering from hot weather and infrequent rainfall. Producers harvested 157,000 acres of peanuts, and produced 408.2 million pounds of peanuts in 2007, an increase of 700,000 pounds from last year. The **soybean** yield is 21.0 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel per acre from 2006 but 15 bushels below the record yield set in 2003. Asian Soybean Rust was not prevalent in this year's crop. Soybean production reached 3.78 million bushels from 180,000 harvested acres, a 780,000 bushel increase from last year. **Irish potato** growers produced 182,000 cwt of potatoes this year, down 58,000 cwt from 2006. **Sweet potato** production was 288,000 cwt, a decrease of 80,000 cwt from a year ago. Alabama's **winter wheat seedings** for 2008 were estimated at 170,000 acres, an increase of 50,000 acres from last year and the most acreage seeded since 2001. Producers seeded more wheat this fall to try to cash in on very strong wheat prices, and to help offset their losses from a poor 2007 crop season.

Alabama Crop Yield Statistics

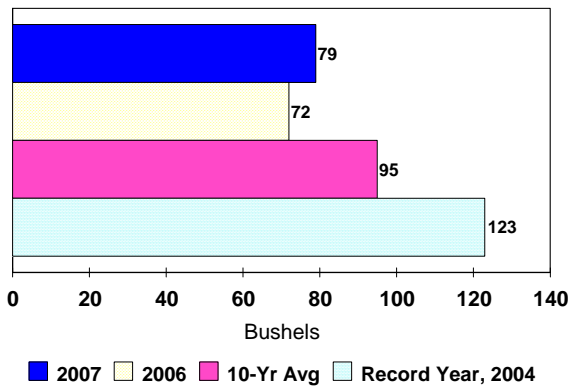
Cotton Yield



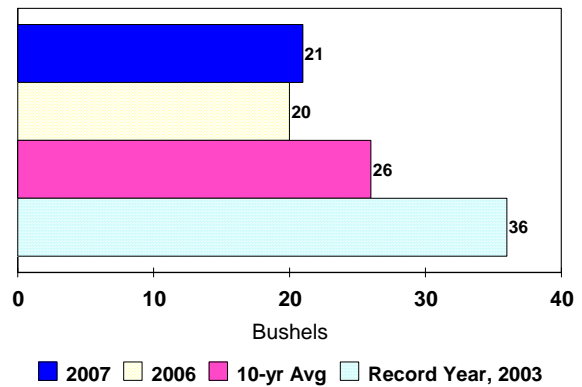
Peanut Yield



Corn Yield



Soybean Yield



Acreage, Yield, and Production of Principal Crops, 2007

Crop	Unit	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
		2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
ALABAMA		- Thousand -				- Units -		- Thousand Units -	
Cotton Lint 1/	Bales	575	400	560	385	579	499	675	400
Cottonseed	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	230	134
Corn, All	Ac.	200	340	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corn, Grain	Bu.	-	-	165	280	72	79	11,880	22,120
Corn, Silage	Ton	-	-	10	10	8	8	80	80
Sorghum, All	Ac.	10	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum, Grain	Bu.	-	-	5	6	43	45	215	270
Sorghum, Silage	Ton	-	-	3	3	7	9	21	27
Hay	Ton	-	-	720	800	2.0	1.7	1,440	1,360
Soybeans	Bu.	160	190	150	180	20	21	3,000	3,780
Peanuts	Lb.	165	160	163	157	2,500	2,600	407,500	408,200
Wheat, All	Bu.	100	120	45	80	58	43	2,610	3,440
Irish potatoes	Cwt.	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.3	150	140	240	182
Sweet potatoes	Cwt.	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.4	160	120	368	288
Pecans (Utilized) 2/	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,000
Peaches 2/	Ton							9.0	6.0
UNITED STATES									
Cotton Lint 1/	Bales	15,274.0	10,830.3	12,731.5	10,492.2	814	871	21,587.8	19,033.0
Cottonseed	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,347.9	6,596.0
Corn, All	Ac.	78,327	93,600	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corn, Grain	Bu.	-	-	70,648	86,542	149.1	151.1	10,534,868	13,073,893
Corn, Silage	Ton	-	-	6,477	6,071	16.2	17.5	105,129	106,328
Sorghum, All	Ac.	6,522	7,718	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum, Grain	Bu.	-	-	4,937	6,805	56.2	74.2	277,538	504,993
Sorghum, Silage	Ton	-	-	347	399	13.4	15.6	4,642	6,206
Hay	Ton	-	-	60,927	61,625	2.34	2.44	142,336	150,304
Soybeans	Bu.	75,522	63,631	74,602	62,820	42.7	41.2	3,188,247	2,585,207
Peanuts	Lb.	1,243	1,230	1,210	1,195	2,863	3,130	3,464,250	3,740,650
Wheat, All	Bu.	57,344	60,433	46,810	51,011	38.7	40.5	1,812,036	2,066,722
Irish potatoes	Cwt.	1,140.1	1,148.8	1,121.9	1,129.0	393	398	441,348	449,156
Sweet potatoes	Cwt.	95.2	100.6	86.8	97.5	187	189	16,248	18,452
Pecans (Utilized) 2/	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	206,300	333,605
Peaches 2/	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,010.1	1,026.9

1/ Yield per acre in pounds. 2/ Estimate carried forward from previous forecast.